

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 06229 082148Z

62

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NAC MINISTERIAL MEETING

REF: STATE 236928

BEGIN SUMMARY: PERMREPS AND SENIOR POLITICAL ADVISORS MET IN SPECIAL RESTRICTED MEETING EVENING NOVEMBER 7 FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION OF FORMAT OF NAC MINISTERIAL. GENERAL CONSENSUS APPEARED TO FORM AROUND IDEA OF RESTRICTED MEETING AT BEGINNING OF MINISTERIAL TO DISCUSS IMPLICATIONS FOR ALLIANCE OF ECONOMIC SITUATION AND DETENTE. OPEN SESSION WOULD DEAL WITH EAST-WEST ISSUES SUCH AS MBFR, CSCE AND THE MEDITERRANEAN TO BE FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION OF CCMS ITEMS. DE ROSE (FRANCE) EXPRESSED CONCERNS ABOUT THE MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION OF DETENTE AND THE UTILITY OF ANY SPC REPORT AS THE BASIS FOR SUCH DISCUSSION. LUNS HOPED FOR SHORT AND BUSINESSLIKE COMMUNIQUE TO WIND UP MINISTERIAL. END SUMMARY.

1. SYG LUNS BEGAN THE MEETING BY STATING HOW HE SAW THE FORM OF THE NAC MINISTERIAL. AFTER FORMAL OPENING AND PICTURE-TAKING, THE MINISTERS WOULD BEGIN WITH A RESTRICTED SESSION WHERE THEY WOULD DISCUSS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS AND DETENTE. THE PLEANRY SESSION WOULD BE STRUCTURED AROUND WELL-DEFINED ITEMS IN ORDER TO PERMIT
SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 06229 082148Z

MINISTERS TO DISCUSS EACH ITEM SEPARATELY. THUS THE AGENDA ITEM "REVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION" WOULD BE SUB-DIVIDED INTO EAST-WEST NEGOTIATIONS (MBFR, CSCE, AND POSSIBLY LINKAGE) AS WELL AS SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN. NEX AGENDA ITEM

WOULD BE CCMS INCLUDING PROGRESS REPORT AND FINAL REPORTS ON ROAD SAFETY, AIR POLLUTION AND INLAND WATER POLLUTION. LUNS SAID HE INTENDED TO DRAW AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IN THE MINISTERIAL ON RESULTS OF JOINT SPC ENCONAD MEETING, SPC WORK ON DETENTE, AD HOC GROUP REPORT ON MBFR, AND RESULTS OF POSSIBLE DECEMBER 2-3 NAC MEETING OF HEADS OF CSCE DELEGATIONS. HE HOPED FOR SHORT AND BUSINESSLIKE COMMUNIQUE.

2. MCAULIFFE (U.S.) SAID HE FOUND LUNS SUGGESTIONS CONSTRUCTIVE IN EVERY RESPECT, AND NOTED THE HIGH STORE U.S. PLACES ON THE RESTRICTED SESSION ON POLITICAL AND SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF ECONOMIC CRISIS. RESTRICTED SESSION WILL ENABLE MINISTERS TO SPEAK MORE FREELY. WE HOPE DISCUSSION ON SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN WILL NOT NEGLECT MIDDLE EAST. DISCUSSIONS ON EAST-WEST NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT INCLUDE SOMETHING ON SALT. HE NOTED THAT DEPARTMENT ANTICIPATES DECEMBER MINISTERIAL WILL BE MORE MARKED BY BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS THAN MOST MINISTERIALS AND HE STATED TENTATIVE ARRIVAL PLANS OF SECRETARY ALONG LINES REF A.

3. DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) SAID HE SAW A DISCUSSION ON DETENTE PROGRESSING ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY COUNSELOR SONNEFELDT TO SPC IN WASHINGTON, I.E. MINISTERS EXPRESSING MEMBER-STATE IDEAS WHICH WOULD CONSTITUTE A MOSAIC OF ALLIANCE VIEWS, I.E. MINISTERS WOULD NOT AIM AT GENERAL DECLARATION OR COMMON POSITION. HE SAID THIS MIGHT NOT BE DRAMATIC BUT WOULD BE USEFUL.

4. DE ROSE (FRANCE) AGREED WITH DE STAERCKE AND ASKED WHAT MORE SPC NEEDED TO DO ON DETENTE, IF MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION WAS ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED BY DE STAERCKE. LOGAN (UK) SAID HHM THINKS VIEWS ON DETENTE WILL EMERGE MOST CLEARLY IN MINISTERIAL DEBATE. MINISTERS DID NOT NEED A PEACE OF PAPER FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND UK WOULD NATURALLY BRIEF INTS OWN MINISTER. CARRAUD (FRANCE) DID NOT SEE NEED FOR SPC TO ESTABLISH WHICH VIEWS DIVERGE, AND DID NOT SEE NEED FOR SPC TO CONTINUE ITS WORK IF MINISTERS WERE TO COMPOSE "MOSAIC". KRAPF (GERMANY) AND HARTOGY (NETHERLANDS) THOUGHT MINISTERS
SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 06229 082148Z

NEEDED TO HAVE SET OUT FOR THEM SELECTED HIGH POINTS OR CONTOURS OF THE ISSUE AND THAT A PAPER WOULD BE HELPFUL. LUNS SUMMED UP THE NEED FOR A PAPER, AND SAID GOVERNMENTS MAY, OF COURSE, MAKE USE OF DOCUMENTS IN ANY WAY THEY WISHED. NAC WILL RETURN TO THIS QUESTION AGAIN.

5. LUNS SUGGESTED AT OUTSET THAT RESTRICTED SESSION CONSIST OF MINISTER PLUS PERMREP PLUS ONE. PECK (UK) SUGGESTED INSTEAD MINISTER PLUS PERMREP PLUS TWO. KRAPF INQUIRED TO WHAT EXTENT DEFENSE MINISTERS WOULD TAKE PART. LUNS INDICATED THAT RESTRICTED SESSION COULD CONSIST OF MINISTER PLUS PERMREP PLUS TWO PLUS DEFENSE MINISTER. GERMAN AND DUTCH REPS INDICATED THEIR DEFENSE MINISTERS WOULD ATTEND SOME OF THE SESSIONS, AND

NORWEGIAN AND DANISH REPS INDICATED POSSIBILITY THAT THEIR DEFENSE MINISTERS WOULD ATTEND SOME OF THE SESSIONS. HARTOGH WONDERED IF DETENTE REQUIRED A RESTRICTED SESSION, SINCE NETHERLANDS PREFERRED TO USE RESTRICTED SESSION FOR ITEMS WITH INTELLIGENCE ASPECTS ONLY. LUNS EMPHASIZED THAT MINISTERS COULD TALK ABOUT DETENTE MORE EASILY AND WITH FEWER INHIBITIONS IN RESTRICTED SESSION. DE ROSE, LATER IN THE DISCUSSION, SAID HE AGREED WITH HARTOGH THAT THERE WAS NO NEED FOR PRIVATE MEETING ON DETENTE.

6. HARTOGH AND KRAPF STRESSED NEED FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION AS PROVIDED BY OTTAWA-TYPE FORMAT. KRAPF SUGGESTED MAKING AGENDA EVEN MORE DETAILED, E.G. SUB-DIVIDING CSCE INTO CATEALOGUE OF POINTS, CBMS, FOLLOW-UP, ETC. HOWEVER, LUNS OBJECTED STRONGLY, POINTING OUT THAT THIS KIND OF DETAILED PICTURE UNNECESSARY. KASTL (ASYG) ALSO NOTED DIFFCULTY MINISTERS WOULD HAVE IN PROGRESSING NEATLY FROM ITEM TO ITEM IN SUCH A DETAILED AGENDA.

7. MCAULIFFE SAID THERE COULD USEFULLY BE SOME DISCUSSION IN RESTRICTED SESSION ON DETENTE SINCE THERE MIGHT BE POINTS REQUIRING SUCH A FORUM. REGARDING DETENTE, U.S. WELCOMES JUST AS MUCH INPUT AS ALLIES CARE TO MAKE. THIS COULD INCLUDE WHERE WE ARE, SOME PHILOSOPHY, AND OR WHERE WE ARE GOING.

8. SAVRT (DENMARK) INQUIRED TOWHAT EXTENT ECONOMIC QUESTIONS COULD DUPLICATE WORK IN OTHER FORUMS. LUNS REPLIED IT WAS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT THE NATO MINISTERIAL NOT DEAL WITH THESE
SECRET

PAGE 04 NATO 06229 082148Z

QUESTIONS IN THE WAY THAT OECD, EC, ETC. DEAL WITH THEM. HOWEVER, ALLIES ALL SEE FINANCE, ENERGY, ETC. EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AND HAVING ADVERSE AFFECT ON THE ALLIANCE. MINISTERS SHOULD LOOK AT THESE QUESTIONS CLOSELY BECAUSE THIS MIGHT ENCOURAGE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE CLOSER POSITIONS ON THESE ISSUES IN OTHER BODIES. LUNS SAID HE WOULD TAKE GREAT CARE TO GUIDE THE DISCUSSION SO AS TO AVOID DUPLICATION WITH OTHER BODIES.

9. GUDIANCE REQUESTED: WASHINGTON VIEWS BY NOVEMBER 13 ON DESIRABILITY OF MEETING IN NAC OF CSCE HEADS OF DELEGATION TO ASSIST IN PREPARATION FOR MINISTERIAL.
MCAULIFFE

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